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state who were employed in 1907 and not employed in 1908 and 1909 doing now?" Many are "vagrants and tramps" (p. 43; cf. 39). In 1908 and 1909, our immigration reports show 165,005 New York aliens emigrated; 318,058 others immigrated. Because no allusion is made to such facts, the author's interpretation of his statistics is often vitiated. Again, the clothing trade is going largely to inland cities: "Workingmen cannot . . . break up relations which they have built up by years of living in one community and quickly follow the employer" (p. 48). Is the connection of immigrant labor with this industry appreciated? The one consequence of immigration is held to be a constant "over-supply" of labor (p. 53).

Public labor exchanges, chiefly, are recommended. Private exchanges, because of their large number and their desire to fill temporary places "tend to increase rather than diminish [?] the maladjustment" causing unemployment (p. 56). Grant that public exchanges have superior advantages; yet it is extreme to urge that employers of common labor "would have no difficulty in finding it at the public employment office" and that "the idleness of trained workers would not need to exist if we had an exchange for skilled labor" (p. 67). Moreover, the author has previously held that fluctuations in employment arise permanently from industrial causes, and that present maladjustment is largely explained by the fact that workmen lack the industrial fitness demanded [for a given wage] by employers. Relief from "the general oversupply of unskilled laborers" is sought in the vocational guidance of children and in industrial education. Though such institutions are desirable, it must be remembered that the problem of the unskilled in New York is less a problem of children than of immigration.

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*Enquête sur le Régime Alimentaire de 1065 Ouvriers Belges.* By A. SLOSSE and E. WAXWEILER. Instituts Solvay, Travaux de l'Institut de Sociologie, Notes et Mémoires, No. 9. (Brussels: Misch et Thron. 1910. Pp. 260.)

This recent addition to budgetary bibliography throws more light on the physiological than on the sociological and economic problems of human living. The study presented in the volume

was carried on during a fortnight among the establishments of 1065 Belgian hand and industrial workers, chosen so far as possible for their representative qualities. An establishment was defined as any social group the members of which eat together—the standard being a housekeeping rather than a domiciliary one. The schedule for each establishment stated the sex, age, and weight of each of the several persons comprising it, the occupation of the head, how long he was employed per day, whether he worked indoors or outdoors, what were his daily wages, and what the total income of the establishment.

The 1065 establishments consisted of 4,873 persons, or 4.6 per establishment. Of the heads of families one fourth worked outdoors. Sixty per cent were employed over 10½ hours a day, while twenty-three per cent worked over 11½ hours.

The discussion is presented in two parts: one the physiological analysis, written by M. Slosse, the other the sociological analysis, prepared by M. Waxweiler. The general physiological conclusions M. Slosse sets forth as follows:

An astonishing number of the rations were below the generally accepted Atwater standard of albumen consumption of 1.5 grams per kilogram of body weight per day. The intake of fat, on the other hand, was found to be greater than was needful, while a considerable deficit of carbohydrates was balanced by the fat surplus—an unfortunate balance, in the opinion of the author. M. Slosse concludes that hard labor and a large intake of energy in the form of food are not necessarily correlated factors of life; that the determinants of alimentation are not always or necessarily the needs of the body; finally, that the dietary of the Belgian workman is faulty, ill adapted to his physiological needs and insufficient.

For the sociological analysis, returns from 1042 establishments or families, were available. In one half these families the man's wages formed the sole income. Food called for 70 per cent of all expenditures. M. Waxweiler computes the number of standard units per family by counting each adult man as one unit, each adult woman and each boy of 14 to 16 as 0.8 unit, each girl of 14 to 16 as 0.7 unit, and so down the scale. This is the unitary standard of Atwater, according to which the combined families of the study comprised 3,521.7 units, or 3.3 units per family. Six-

teen per cent of the families were found to have an income per standard unit, or "coefficient of comfort," of less than one franc a day, 60 per cent from one to two francs, and but 22 per cent over two francs.

It was found that both the proportion of albumen and the general nutritive value of the daily ration tended to increase with size of income, although there were great variations within the same social groups in different localities. Thus the proportion of meat tended to be lowest in the crowded industrial centers. Differences in occupation did not seem to exercise any greater influence on the alimentary régime than on the expenditure of energy in work.

The general conclusion of the authors is that no alimentary norm can be laid down. That great differences exist between countries is seen from the fact that of Belgian industrial workers nine tenths consume less than 150 grams of meat a day, as contrasted with one tenth among American industrial workers. Yet if the Belgian workers were arbitrarily raised to the American standard of meat consumption, the result might be either negligible or even definitely harmful to them.

The study impresses the reader as a painstaking and cautiously prepared piece of work. There are a few errors in the book, as for example on page 10, where the typical family is represented as containing 16.5 units, instead of 12.9. A curious typographical blunder assigns all the lefthand pages from 194 to 255 to Chapter II instead of Chapter III. A statement of the total number of persons comprising the 1065 families, together with their age and sex and the total number of units represented by them, is omitted. This information was supplied to the reviewer in a letter on request, but did not appear in the printed volume. The study will please the adherents of a low-protein dietary, but it is no disparagement to the ability and zeal of the co-authors to conclude that the great difference between American and Belgian social and industrial conditions, together with the very limited field covered by the book, makes it of curious rather than practical value to the American student of human life.

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